

VIRGINIA ARGUS

[XVth YEAR.]

A FREE PRESS MAINTAINS THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE PEOPLE.

[No. 1374.]

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W E D N E S D A Y, JULY 29, 1807.

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GENERAL ORDERS.

RICHMOND, July 17th, 1807.

THE President of the United States has required of the Executive of the different states, to organize, arm and equip according to law, and hold in readiness to march at a moment's warning, their respective proportions of one hundred thousand militia.

The public prints will have already announced the object of this requisition. Ever since the United States became an independent nation, their uniform policy has been to cultivate peace and good will with all the world. It had been hoped that their just and pacific councils would have secured to them in return, the blessings of peace and good will from all. Great Britain, however, busied as she has been with the wars of Europe, has found more than one occasion to convince us of the fallacy of this hope. It is needless to recite the series of wrongs which she has practised towards us: they live in the memory and resentment of us all. Treaties violated, commerce plundered, our citizens impressed in her service and treated like galley-slaves: these are the evidences of her good will and respect for an independent nation. Yet we have borne all, and sought to obtain by peaceful means that redress which we might justly have extorted at the point of the bayonet. But the measure of insult and of injury is at length full by the perpetration of an act which has no parallel in the annals of civilized nations. While negotiations are yet going on, while we are lulled into security by the olive branch held out by her ministers, who profess a willingness to treat on the footing of equality and mutual justice, her armed squadrons lie in wait in our waters, fall upon an American vessel of war leaving our harbor, and unprepared for action, murder a part of her crew almost before our faces, nor desist from the havoc until the flag of the nation is dishonored by submission. Then force from her deck four native citizens of America, return to Hampton Roads and in effect blockade the principal commercial town of Virginia. The spirit displayed around the theatre of this bloody outrage, and as far as the report of it has gone over the state, confirms the pleasing assurance that the present men of Virginia are the true sons of '76. Virginia had the honor to stand foremost in the bold and glorious measures which led to our independence: she has now the first opportunity of exhibiting to her sister states a model of that energy with which independence ought to be protected and avenged. The Governor will not say he *hopes*, because he *knows* that she will prove herself worthy of the high destination to which she is called.

Whether Great Britain will, of her own accord, make that ample atonement for these aggravated injuries which justice demands, and thereby prevent the appeal to arms, is not for us to decide. 'Tis ours to be prepared for every issue: willing to accept redress if spontaneously offered; but ready to compel it if it be withheld.

The Governor therefore in pursuance of the advice of the Council, and in execution of the requisition of the President of the United States, directs 11563 of the Militia of Virginia, being her quota of the detachment required by the President, to be forthwith drafted, organized, armed and equipped according to law, and held in readiness to take the field at a moment's warning. They will consist of the following proportions of Artillery, Cavalry, Riflemen and Infantry, viz.

Artillery,	378
Cavalry,	1156
Riflemen,	1156
Infantry,	8673
Total	11563

They will be apportioned among the several divisions of the state agreeably to details to be furnished by the adjutant General.

The appointment of the general officers will be made and communicated at a future day.

The corps of Cavalry will be formed into two regiments, of which, Lt. Col. Larkin Smith, will command the first, having under him the Majors Robert Grattan and Tunstall Banks; the second will be commanded by Lt. Col. Henry Bowyer, having under him the Majors John T. Woodford, and Peter F. Archer. The corps of Artillery, will be formed into one regiment to be commanded by Lt. Col. William R. Fleming, having under him the Majors James Taylor and John Bronaugh; of which the Major Generals of the respective divisions to which those officers belong, will be pleased to take notice.

Any corps of Volunteers, which at any time previous to orders for taking the field, shall tender their services conformably to the Act of Congress of the 18th of April, 1806, or to the act of Congress of the 24th of February, 1807, will be accepted, and considered as substitutes, according to their numbers, for the whole or any part of the 11563 men, required from this state.

When the detachment and organization shall have been effected, the respective corps shall be exercised by the officers set over them; drafted Militia by their proper officers; Volunteers by their own officers, if organized at the time of tendering their services, and if not then organized, by officers, to be elected by themselves and to be approved and commissioned by the

Executive of this state... But they will not remain embodied, nor be considered as in actual service, until by subsequent orders they shall be directed to take the field. Correct muster rolls and inspection returns will be made to the Adjutant General, who will without delay transmit copies to the Secretary at War.

On this deeply interesting occasion, the Governor indulges the pleasing hope that his fellow-citizens will not wait for the slow call of the legal routine of duty, but that the whole Quota of Virginia will be filled by Volunteers, ardent and emulous for their country's service, burning with impatience to avenge her wrongs, and evincing by their discipline and valour, that a well regulated Militia affords, to a free state, a defence not only the most safe, but the most effectual.

WILLIAM H. CABELL.

By the Governor. *Attest,* SAM: COLEMAN, D. A. G.

In pursuance of the annexed General Orders, the quota to be drawn from the Commonwealth of Virginia, of one hundred thousand militia, directed by the President of the United States, to be prepared to take the field at a moment's warning, will be furnished by the several Divisions and Brigades as follows:

DIVISIONS.	BRIGADES.	INFANTRY	RIFLEMEN	CAVALRY	ARTILLERY
1st Division,	4th Brigade	580		68	24
	11th Brigade	638		75	38
	12th Brigade	600		71	35
	15th Brigade	592		70	35
		2410		284	142
2d Division,	1st Brigade	626		73	36
	3d Brigade	638		75	38
	5th Brigade	456		44	27
	6th Brigade	567		43	21
		2087		245	122
3d Division,	7th Brigade	442	166	71	25
	10th Brigade	307	165	55	27
	13th Brigade	350	165	61	20
	16th Brigade	443	165	61	35
	17th Brigade	300	165	44	27
	18th Brigade	109	165	32	16
		116	165	35	19
		2067	1156	379	189
4th Division,	2d Brigade	488		57	29
	8th Brigade	484		57	29
	9th Brigade	516		61	30
	14th Brigade	621		73	37
		2109		248	125
RECAPITULATION,	1st Division	2410		284	142
	2d Division	2087		245	122
	3d Division	2067	1156	379	189
	4th Division	2109		248	125
		8673	1156	1156	578
FURTHER RECAPITULATION:		INFANTRY	8673		
		RIFLEMEN	1156		
		CAVALRY	1156		
		ARTILLERY	578		
		11563	TOTAL OF THE QUOTA OF		
			VIRGINIA.		

Attest,

SAM: COLEMAN, D. A. G.

Richmond Price Current.

(CORRECTED WEEKLY.)

Tobacco,	85 to 5	50 cash.
Wheat, new,	1	00 do.
Flour, superfine, old,	5	50 do.
Flour, fine,	5	00 do.
Corn,	4	00 do.
Hemp, clean, (per ton)	200	00 do.
Iron,	120	00 do.
Bacon,	12	00 do.
Whiskey,	80	00 do.

BOSTON, July 17.

Legally Authorized Town Meeting.

YESTERDAY the inhabitants of this town assembled at Faneuil-Hall, to consider the communications from the committee of the citizens of Norfolk and Portsmouth, Virginia, respecting the late attack on the American frigate *Chesapeake*, by his Britannic Majesty's ship *Leopard*, acting under the orders of Admiral Berkeley. John Coffin Jones, Esq. was chosen Moderator; and the following gentlemen were appointed a committee to draft suitable resolutions.—Hon. John Q. Adams, Hon. Harrison G. Otis, Hon. William Eustis, Hon. Christopher Gore, Dr. Charles Jarvis, Hon. John C. Jones, Thomas H. Perkins, Esq. Hon. Jonathan Mason, Dr. John Warren.

The committee reported the following resolutions, which were agreed to without division by the committee, and unanimously accepted by the town:

WHEREAS by the communications from Norfolk, Portsmouth, and vicinities, and the proclamation of the PRESIDENT of the United States, it appears that the sovereignty of our country has been insulted, and the lives of our citizens sacrificed, by the unjustifiable conduct of a British armed ship:—

Resolved, That we consider the unprovoked attack made on the United States' armed ship the *Chesapeake*, by the British ship of war the *Leopard*, a wanton outrage upon the lives of our fellow-citizens, a direct violation of our national honor, and an infringement of our national rights and sovereignty.

Resolved, that we most sincerely approve the proclamation, and the firm and dispassionate course of policy pursued by the President of the United States, and we will cordially unite with our fellow-citizens in affording effectual support to such measures as our government may further adopt, in the present crisis of our affairs.

Resolved, that we shall remember with pride and pleasure the patriotic and spirited conduct of the citizens of Norfolk, Portsmouth and their vicinities, before the orders of the government were known, upon this momentous occasion; and that they are entitled to the thanks and approbation of their fellow citizens throughout the union.

Resolved, that the selectmen be requested to return a suitable answer to the respectful communications from our fellow-citizens of Norfolk, with the proceedings of this meeting.

WILLIAM COOPER, Town Clerk.

There were probably between 1500 and 2000 citizens assembled at Faneuil-Hall.

CHARLESTON, July 14.

The General Meeting of the Citizens of Charleston, held on the 8th inst. having requested the Governor, as Commander in Chief, to direct the Militia, promptly to arm and equip themselves, and to be prepared to obey the call of the General Government—in pursuance of their request, his Excellency has sent the following circular letter to the Major Generals and Brigadiers of the Militia, with a request to have the same communicated to the Officers and Privates of their respective Divisions and Brigades.

FELLOW-CITIZENS, I HAVE the honor to enclose you the proceedings and resolutions of a general meeting of the citizens of Charleston, held on the 8th inst. and to refer you to the same, for the causes which gave rise to it, and the consequences which may be expected.

You will see by this statement, that, in a time of profound peace, while our harbors

were filled with their vessels of commerce, and some of them of war; our stores with their manufactures, and our towns with their merchants and subjects; while every act, not only of just and honorable neutrality, but of hospitality and friendship, was exercised towards them; while special missions of ministers plenipotentiary were resident at their court, for the express purpose of removing every cause of dissension, and drawing still more closely the bonds of amity—the *Leopard*, a ship of war belonging to the government of Great Britain, and of very superior force, has attacked the *Chesapeake*, a frigate of the United States, in a most wanton unprovoked manner, killed and wounded a number of her seamen, and grossly violated every principle of neutrality.

That the indignation of every class of our citizens is excited by this event—that they consider it paramount to every consideration; and that they have pledged, most solemnly, their lives and fortunes, to support the government of their country, in every measure which its wisdom may adopt, to obtain complete and honorable reparation.

The great respect and attachment always due to a government so remarkable for its justice and moderation, for its desire of honorable peace, and its maintenance of our public rights as our own, will, no doubt, induce us all to condescend implicitly in its decisions; but, as it is always safest, and particularly when events like these occur, to be prepared for every extremity, I have, in pursuance of the recommendation of the general meeting, addressed you, requesting you who are officers, to use every means in your power to have the militia under your command promptly armed and equipped, and prepared to obey the call of the Federal Government, should they require the services of any part of them; and I earnestly intreat our fellow-citizens who are the privates, to second your efforts by every means in their power.

It is to be hoped this atrocious act of violence has not been authorized by the British government, and will be promptly and honorably disavowed by them—that on the demand being made ample and satisfactory reparation will be ordered, and the in-

tercourse and friendship of the two nations restored on honorable & equal grounds. Should, however, proper satisfaction be refused, you will then doubtless recollect that no common occasion has aroused you—that not only your rights, but your national honor has been attacked, and in a way to make accommodation extremely difficult—The least reparation that even the most moderate government must conceive indispensable, may be refused by a nation long accustomed to control the ocean, and little used to concession.

Under this aspect, I fear the equality which we must respect and never lose sight of, may not only be forgotten by her, but even former resentments and situations be recollected.

Should this unfortunately be the case, should the only satisfaction which can be received be denied, and things be driven to extremities, you must in your turn remember your own and the conduct of your ancestors, under circumstances much more trying than can again occur. In the former struggle with Great Britain, your population was not one half so numerous as it is at present. You had neither government, laws or revenue; a great proportion of your inhabitants was opposed to your revolution. You had neither ammunition, or the means to obtain it; or friends, or allies to support you.

You were destitute of manufactures, and literally without the comforts or even the necessities of life; you had at that time, the most powerful and victorious people in Europe to contend with. You were a handful of colonists scattered over an immense continent, the name of which was scarcely known to other nations.

But, under all these discouraging, nay hopeless circumstances, when her rights were attacked, what was the language of America? From the moment she saw honorable reconciliation at an end, she spurned at every thing that was otherwise.

She met the struggle with the firmness and moderation always essential to true dignity.—She soon convinced the world, that men who could forego their profits, their pleasures, and the peaceable enjoyment of their dearest connexions, and all

for liberty, could never be reduced to vassalage. The prevalent and steady language of America then was, to risk their towns, to give up the luxuries and even the conveniences of life, to be prepared to resist the power of the enemy, and not to lament their losses, while their woods, their honor and their liberty was left to them; thus determined, they resisted not in vain. The almighty disposer of events crowned their efforts with success, and stamped our country the freest, and until this moment, the happiest residence of the human race.

Amidst, however, the vicissitudes that attend every state, I fear that, removed as we supposed we were from almost every possibility of interference with the general confusion and war that every where prevails, even our distance and unexampled moderation will not much longer protect us from participating in their evils.

If the crisis does arrive; if you are obliged to defend your rights by arms, you will have the solid comfort of reflecting that your government is right, and that the pretence by which it is attempted to justify this act, is totally unfounded; that the laws of nations give no right to demand the seamen who were said to be mutineers, and that our constitution and laws forbid their surrender.

Having thus, justice on our side; an honorable and patriotic government, around which the people rally unanimously; vast national resources and means of defence, within yourselves; numerous and powerful friends in Europe; domestic manufactures which, in time of war, will soon be abundantly sufficient for your own supplies.—Thus situated, I am sure you will meet any event, as freemen ought; and that you will recollect the manner in which your ancestors achieved your independence and supported its rights—that having, through their firmness and love of liberty, received them uncontaminated, you, too, will consider yourselves bound in honor to transmit them, unimpaired, to your posterity.

CHARLES PINCKNEY.

Charleston, July 11, 1807.